

REMARKS

I. Preliminary Remarks

The foregoing amendment is in the revised amendment format as provided in 68 Fed. Reg. 38611 (June 30,2003). Accordingly, the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.21, requiring submission of clean and marked-up versions of the amended claims, are waived.

II. The objection to claims 6, 7 and 9 should be withdrawn

At page 10 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 6, 7 and 9 for depending from rejected base claims. In the foregoing amendment, each of claims 6 and 7 have been amended to independent form and claim 9 has been amended to depend from either of claims 6 or 7. Thus, this objection has been rendered moot and the Applicants request that it be withdrawn.

III. The rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs, should be withdrawn

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 8 and 11-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, asserting that the claims were not enabled by the specification. In addition, claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs for assertedly lacking an adequate written description in the specification and for assertedly being indefinite and vague. Solely for the purpose of expediting prosecution and passing the claims in condition for allowance to issuance, the Applicants have canceled claims 1-5, 8, and 11-14. These claims are canceled without prejudice, and the Applicants reserve their right to pursue claims of similar scope in a continuing application. Thus, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs, have been rendered moot and should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing amendment, as this amendment puts the application in better condition for allowance pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejections and to pass this application to issue.

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Respectfully submitted,

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